

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 2

M = 368

MESSAGE = 07045931

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RR ZAA ZAZ OLS LNS ORI ZHZ DE

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/Z6D 2002320

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FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/UNIFORM HOTEL

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~~SECRET SPOKE~~ SECTION FOUR

XXMM

ENP04TB18078 2/O/VCK/R33-68 AVC,KUS/AVIA-A,DOCT-A,INSE-A,OPER-MZE,I) NVAF MIG
OPERATIONS SOUTH OF 20TH PARALLEL - JUNE 1968

XXCC

QT JUNE A. 0933Z-1005Z 2 MIG-21 PHUC YEN PHUC YEN (FISHBED F) COMMENTS 1. THE TWO MIG-21.S FLEW TO THE BAI THUONG AREA AND RETURNED TO PHUC YEN FOR APPARENTLY NAVIGATIONAL TRAINING PURPOSES WITHOUT LANDING AT ANY SOUTHERN AIRFIELD. 2. THE WEATHER AT BAI THUONG AND VINH WAS REPORTEDLY POOR WITH NEITHER AIRFIELD BEING ABLE TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS UNTIL 16 JUNE. 16 JUNE A. 0751Z-0821Z 2 MIG-21 PHUC YEN BAI THUONG (FISHBED F) B. 0759Z-0846Z 2 MIG-17 HANOI/GIA LAM BAI THUONG C. 0900Z-0926Z 2 MIG-21 BAI THUONG BAI THUONG (FISHBED F) (SAME ACFT AS A ABOVE) D. 0918Z-0955Z 2 MIG-17 (SAME BAI THUONG BAI THUONG ACFT AS B ABOVE) E. 1017Z-1049Z 2 MIG-21 BAI THUONG PHUC YEN (FISHBED F) (SAME ACFT AS A + C ABOVE) F. 1036Z-1051Z 2 MIG-17 (SAME BAI THUONG HANOI/GIA LAM ACFT AS B + D ABOVE) 1. AIR OPERATIONS MESSAGES AMONG HANOI/BAC MAI, BAI THUONG AND VINH LATE ON 15 JUNE REPORTED THE RUNWAY AT BAI THUONG WOULD BE UNUSABLE UNTIL 0400Z 16 JUNE. 2. HANOI REPORTED THE POSITIONS OF SHIPS IN THE GULF OF TONKIN (PROBABLY U.S. CARRIERS) AT 16/0108Z. 3. THE MIG-17 PILOTS WERE TOLD "LAND ON THE LEFT SIDE (OF THE RUNWAY)" BY THE BAI THUONG CONTROLLER. 4. BAI THUONG CONTROLLER ORDERED THE MIG-21.S TO ATTACK THE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT IN THE VINH AREA AND CAUTIONED THE MIG.S NOT TO GO OVER THE COAST. BOTH MIG-21 PILOTS REPORTED ONE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT BURNING(C). 5. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION REVEALS ONE USN F-4J FROM THE USS AMERICA WAS SHOT DOWN BY AN AAM. THE WINGMAN OF THE DOWNED U.S. AIRCRAFT FIRED TWO AAMS AT THE ATTACKING MIG.S, BUT BOTH MISSED. 6. THE MIG-17.S FLEW COVER(D) FOR THE MIG-21.S RETURNING TO BAI THUONG(C) FOLLOWING THE SHOOTDOWN OF THE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. 7. THE MIG-21.S MOUNTED A SECOND FLIGHT TO THE VINH AREA(E) AND APPROACHED TO WITHIN 8.1 NAUTICAL MILES OF THE SAR AIRCRAFT, BUT DID NOT ENGAGE THEM. THE MIG-21.S RETURNED NORTH TO LAND AT PHUC YEN BY-PASSING BAI THUONG AIRFIELD. 17 JUNE A. 0655Z-0742Z 2 MIG-21 PHUC YEN BAI THUONG B. 0716Z-0727Z 2 MIG-17 HANOI/GIA LAM BAI THUONG C. 0945Z-1022Z 2 MIG-17 (SAME BAI THUONG BAI THUONG ACFT AS B ABOVE) D. 0953-1029Z 2 MIG-21 (SAME BAI THUONG BAI THUONG ACFT AS A ABOVE) COMMENTS 1. AIR OPERATIONS MESSAGES AMONG HANOI, BAI THUONG AND VINH INDICATED TWO MIG-17.S AND TWO MIG-21.S WERE SCHEDULED FROM HANOI/GIA LAM AND PHUC YEN RESPECTIVELY, TO THE THAN HOA AREA. 2. THE MIG-17.S CONDUCTED A DEFENSIVE PATROL IN THE VINH AREA(C) BUT DID NOT SIGHT OR ENGAGE ANY HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. THE MIG-17.S RETURNED

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TO BAI THUONG WHERE THEY REMAINED OVERNIGHT. 3. THE MIG-21.S FLEW TO THE VINH AREA AND MADE VISUAL CONTACT WITH UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT (PROBABLY U.S. STRIKE AIRCRAFT), BUT DID NOT ENGAGE THEM(D). 4. THE MIG-21 FLIGHT LEADER ORDERED HIS WINGMAN TO FOLLOW THE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT BUT HE CAUTIONED THE PILOT NOT TO GO OVER THE COASTLINE. BOTH AIRCRAFT THEN TURNED NORTH TO RETURN TO BAI THUONG. 5. BOTH MIG-21 PILOTS, WHILE EN ROUTE BACK TO BAI THUONG(D) REPORTED SEEING A SHIP IN THE GULF OF TONKIN LAUNCH TWO MISSILES. THE MIG-21.S RAPIDLY DECREASED THEIR ALTITUDE AND SUCCESSFULLY EVADED THE SAM.S. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION REPORTS THE USS JOUETT LAUNCHED TWO TERRIER MISSILES DURING THIS TIME XXHH 900 NNNH

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